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May 20.—Springfield, L. I. For Orchids. Meet at East 34th Street Ferry, New York side, 1 P. M. Guide, DR. E. B. SOUTHWICK.

May 27.—Summit, N. J. Lackawanna R. R. Meet at West 23rd Street Station, at 9 A. M. Guide, MR. SERENO STETSON.

June 3d.—To Staten Island, N. Y. Guide to determine Station. Fare 20 cents. Meet at Staten Island Ferry, N. Y. side, 9 A. M. Guide, MR. B. O. DODGE.

June 10th.—To Hollis, L. I. Meet at East 34th St. Ferry, N. Y. side, 9. A. M. For study of Fungi. Guide MR. F. J. SEAVER.

June 17-21. Slide Mountain, Ulster Co. This excursion may involve camping on the summit of the mountain for two nights. All those desiring to attend please communicate with the guide MR. NORMAN TAYLOR, Central Museum, Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, by May 30th in order that the necessary arrangements may be made.

The Field Committee.

E. B. SOUTHWICK,

Chairman.

NEWS ITEMS

We learn from the *Tribune* (May 1) of the death of Dr. Pehr Olsson-Seffer in a train, wrecked and shot at by Mexican revolutionists. The week-end special train for Cuernavaca, seventy-five miles south of Mexico City, was stopped by the firing of a volley through it and its derailment. Dr. Olsson-Seffer, who was widely known for his work in tropical botany and agriculture, was born in Finland, went to Australia and subsequently to California where he became instructor in Stanford University. Latterly he made a tour of the tropical world to study the rubber industry, and was recently appointed to the chair of botany in the newly created Mexican University.

The following public lectures are advertised at the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park. They are at 4 P. M. May 20. "The Reef-building and Land-forming Seaweeds," by Dr. Marshall A. Howe. May 27. "The Influence of Soil Acidity

on Plant Distribution," by Mr. Frederick V. Coville. June 3. "How Plants are Distributed," by Prof. Carlton C. Curtis. June 10. "The Royal Gardens at Kew, England," by Dr. William A. Merrill. June 17. "Collecting in the High Mountains of Colorado," by Mr. Fred J. Seaver. June 24. "Past Climatic Conditions Indicated by Fossil Plants," by Dr. Arthur Hollick.

At an arbor day celebration in the Central Museum, Brooklyn, held on April 27, more than 1,600 school children actually heard and saw the exercises. Nearly 2,500 more, who could not be accommodated, were obliged to go home, although some of this excess crowd took part in a tree-planting in the adjacent Botanic Garden grounds.

In *TORREYA* for January, page 9, bottom line, the name *Panicum neuranthum* should be *Aristida stricta*.

Dr. C. B. Robinson of the Philippine Bureau of Science expects to return to this country about the end of July. Dr. Robinson was formerly an assistant curator at the New York Botanical Garden, and has been in the Philippines for the last three years, giving much of his time to fiber investigations. He is now collecting along the Indo-China coast.

According to the *New York Evening Post* a gift of \$25,000 from an anonymous donor makes possible the immediate construction of a two-story addition to the Gray Herbarium building, in which the botanical library will be housed.

At the annual meeting of the Naples Table Association, held at Smith College on April 30, the table for 1911-12 was awarded to Miss Mary Edith Pinney, B.A. Kansas 1898, M.A. 1910. Miss Pinney is now studying at Bryn Mawr for her Ph.D. degree, and has just received the M. Cary Thomas European fellowship for 1911-1912.

Mr. K. F. Kellerman of the Bureau of Plant Industry sailed for Europe on April 25 to study recent progress in soil bacteriology. He will visit Germany, Russia, France and England.

Professor Eduard Zacharias, director of the Botanical Institute of Hamburg and author of numerous papers on cytology, has died.